

APPROVED

**MINUTES OF OFFICERS MEETING
OF THE
MISQUAMICUT FIRE DISTRICT**

September 17, 2014

The Officers' Meeting of the Misquamicut Fire District was called to order by the Moderator, Michelle Vacca, at 4:30 p.m. on September 17, 2014.

Members present were: Marilyn Bellesheim, Leone D'Onofrio, Mary Delisio, Russell Ryan, Michelle Vacca and Dianne Vumback. John Toscano, Solicitor, was also present. William Sisco and Fire Chief Shannon Earle were absent.

A motion was made by Leone D'Onofrio and seconded by Russell Ryan to accept the Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2014 with two corrections.

VOTED: That the Board accepts the Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2014 with two corrections. (Bellesheim, D'Onofrio, Delisio, Ryan, Vacca, Vumback – Yes)

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

- **Jim Culyer sent an email (see attached). He had a great year on the beach but felt things needed to be addressed to make our beaches better. He came to the meeting to address any questions the board may have in regards to his email.**
- **Suggestion made that as we look at next year's budget, we take into consideration signage, rotation of staff, cleanliness of beach, drinking on the beach, etc.**
- **This will be tabled until Beach Access Committee meets.**

TREASURER REPORT

No treasurer report

FIRE CHIEF

No Fire Chief report

TAX COLLECTOR

- **\$200,000 of our \$457,000 collected.**
- **Still have quite a few payments to process**
- **Collections are better this year versus last year at this time**
- **In October, we will generate a list of those over 2 years in arrears.**

MODERATOR

- **District Update**

- **Need a file cabinet – will look to purchase.**

- **New contract with Weekapaug – 4 years \$85,000/year. Expires July 1, 2018.**

- o **Russ feels that the contract should have been brought before the board before a contract was signed.**

- **New signage up at the beach stating “Beach Closed”. Ordered five – two on Lawton, two on Clark Farms, one on Benson.**

- **Banners also at Benson and Lawton.**

- **Water drained yesterday at Lawton, next will be Clark Farms and Benson will be drained last.**

- **We will make a call for dumpster to get picked up.**

- **Mr. Panciera, Blackledge – Solicitor Toscano is putting together the bills we owe on the bathhouses. Suggestion was that we pay contractors directly. Coventry Lumber is owed \$5,552.59. Total Construction (plumbing and electrical) owed \$10,275.00. Fagan Doors has been paid and they will provide a release. Chamberlain needs to be contacted by us.**

- **The balance owed to Harold is \$21,000 (retainage).**

- **The position of district – until all contractors have been paid and all releases have been obtained, no money will be given to Mr. Panciera.**

- **Security system will be ordered soon.**

- **The elevators need to be “winterized”.**

- **We will get a couple of contractors to give us a price to “winterize” elevators.**

- Discussion about gates on top floor of bath houses to block off bathrooms.
- RFQ went out (6-7 letters) to oil companies to install two new oil tanks in cellar, transfer of oil in underground tank to new tanks and removal of underground tank. A&B only company that came forward. Mr. Sisco suggested to also get a quote on a new furnace. He also suggested to ask Fire Department to contribute 50% of the project total. Firemen not happy about tanks in cellar as they have a workout room they use.
- Leone D'Onofrio comments that this fire house does not belong to the Chief or firefighters. It belongs to the district. It is not fair to ask the firefighters to pay for the maintenance of the fire station.
- Oil tank was set at 70 degrees – no furnace will keep up with that.
- Suggestion was made to insulate ceiling in the bay.
- Discussion over the use of this building – every Thanksgiving a family uses the building for their Thanksgiving dinner.
- Policy needs to be established as far as “liability issues” and a fee schedule.
- The Moderator will contact the Fire Chief to talk to the family.
- Letter to Chief that the fire station is not to be used for personal events.

A motion was made by Leone D'Onofrio and seconded by Russ Ryan that the Moderator send a letter to the Chief that the fire station not be used for personal use by any fire member or fire district taxpayer.

VOTED: That the Moderator send a letter to the Chief that the fire station not be used for personal use by any fire member or fire district taxpayer. (Bellesheim, D'Onofrio, Delisio, Ryan, Vacca, Vumback – Yes)

- **October 17, 2014 – Firemen's Banquet – 7:00 p.m.**
- **Letter from William Davis, Deputy Fire Chief. He is requesting that Christopher Koretski be awarded the Top Incentive Tier (Tier 3) of \$2,000 for 2013-2014. Chris did not make any tier – he missed only one meeting. (See attached).**

Moderator would like to give Christopher Koretski Tier 2.

A motion is made by Marilyn Bellesheim and seconded by Mary Delisio requesting that the Board recommend Christopher Koretski, who missed one meeting, to qualify for the second tier of the Firemen's Incentive at \$1,400.

Discussion:

- **Are we going to state that the rules that we follow with exceptions have some criteria?**
- **If we are going to bend the rules, it becomes subjective to us.**
- **Do we have a Fire Chief or Lieutenant recommendation for anyone else? No.**
- **What tier would Chris have earned if he made the one meeting? Tier**

2.

- **Why is he being recommended for Tier 3? The Moderator states he should be considered for Tier 2.**
- **Russ Ryan states that he chaired the Firemen's Incentive Committee for several years and was never told about this "exception rule".**
- **Reference is made to the policy number.**
- **Russ Ryan looked for the policy and it was not found in the MFD procedure book.**
- **Board members have not seen nor been aware of the policy.**
- **Dianne Vumback asked if there were any other firemen close. Answer was three were.**
- **A question was asked if they were being considered for the incentive. The answer was no.**
- **Dianne asked if we should wait to see if we can even find this policy that states the "exception" rule before making a decision.**
- **A question is asked if we should modify the motion: Should we modify to say based on the recommendation of Fire Chief?**
- **A question is asked that if the policy says recommendation from the Chief, is it acceptable that it is coming from the Deputy Chief?**

A suggestion is made that we table the motion until we get information that members of the board is requesting (copy of the policy).

Marilyn withdraws her motion. All in agreement. Motion dies.

Leone D'Onofrio makes a motion, seconded by Marilyn Bellesheim, that based on the recommendation Deputy Chief William Davis regarding Christopher Koretski and his incentive compensation award, that we as a board accept the recommendation with the following provisions: Provision 1 being that he be awarded tier 2 incentive compensation. Provision 2: a review of the policy to verify who has the authority to make the recommendation and properly obtaining that approval on the recommendation letter for Chris Koretski.

Roll Call:

Marilyn Bellesheim – Yes

Leone D'Onofrio - Yes

Mary Delisio – Yes

Russ Ryan – No

Michelle Vacca - Yes

Dianne Vumback – No

Motion carries

VOTED: That the Board, based on the recommendation Deputy Chief William Davis regarding Christopher Koretski and his incentive compensation award, that we as a board accept the recommendation with the following provisions: Provision 1 being that he be awarded tier 2 incentive compensation. Provision 2: a review of the policy to verify who has the authority to make the recommendation and properly obtaining that approval on the recommendation letter for

Chris Koretski.

A motion is made by Dianne Vumback and seconded by Leone D'Onofrio to recommend the Firemen's Incentive Compensation as prepared and submitted by Marilyn W. Bellesheim, totaling \$17,800 for payment.

VOTED: That the Board recommend the Firemen's Incentive Compensation as prepared and submitted by Marilyn W. Bellesheim, totaling \$17,800 for payment.

(Bellesheim, D'Onofrio, Delisio, Ryan, Vacca, Vumback – Yes)

NEW BUSINESS

- Leone D'Onofrio has submitted our Assessor's statement of assessed values and Tax Levy to the state (submitted via email).**
- Leone will create a folder of all pertinent Tax Assessors information – as per law.**
- Marilyn asked why are we still bull dozing the beach frequently after Labor Day? Answer was that the sand is being moved toward the snow fences.**
- Can we close Montauk Avenue entrance?**
- Locking garage doors next year, need Lawton recycle bin, garbage needs to be emptied more often, better picture on Facebook.**

OLD BUSINESS

- **Table the Louis Misto discussion until next month.**
- **A question regarding FEMA money for the bathhouses – not until we get the Cos. – still in process.**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 p.m. all were in favor. The next scheduled board meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

**Dianne Vumback
Clerk**